

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PHNOM 00909 161011Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 160856Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8939

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 909

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, CB

SUBJ: DISCUSSION OF US AID WITH MARSHAL LON NOL

1. IN A JANUARY 15 MEETING WITH THE MARSHAL, DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO PROBLEMS OF FINDING FANK REPLACEMENTS (SEPTEL), I TOOK THE OCCASION TO BRIEF HIM ON THE ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FUNDS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO THE KHMER REPUBLIC DURING THE PAST FOUR DAYS. THIS REQUIRED EXPLAINING TO HIM HOW THE \$177 MILLION DOLLARS VOTED BY CONGRESS FOR ECONOMIC AID HAVE BEEN OBLIGATED, AND BREAKING DOWN THIS INFO INTO CIP, PL 480, US CONTRIBUTION TO THE EXCHANGE SUPPORT FUND, ETC. OF THE \$177 MILLION DOLLARS AVAILABLE, \$175.1 MILLION HAVE NOW BEEN COMMITTED.

2. I TOLD THE MARSHAL NOT TO PUBLICIZE THIS INFORMATION SINCE IT MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED BY CRITICAL FOREIGN JOURNALISTS AS AMANEUVER TO OBLIGATE ALL FY '75 FUNDS AVAILABLE AND THEN USE THIS ARGUMENT TO REQUEST SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OR SPENDING AUTHORIZATION FOR CAMBODIA. THE MARSHAL UNDERSTOOD THE POINT. HE ALSO REALIZED THAT DURING THE LAST WEEK MORE THAN \$70 MILLION IN ECONOMIC FUNDS HAVE BEEN OBLIGATED FOR CAMBODIA, THAT THIS REPRESENTS PROWEFUL US SUPPORT FOR THE GKR AND THAT UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH NEWS WOULD HAVE BEEN WIDELY PUBLICIZED. TO ASSURE FULL COMPREHENSION OF THIS TECHNICAL SUBJECT, I LEFT WITH

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HIM A BRIEF SUMMARY IN FRENCH ON THIS MATTER.

DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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